



Attorney's Docket No. 043474/257035

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Joseph Robert Offutt, Jr. et al.

Appl. No.: 09/275,887

Filed: March 25, 1999

For: METHODS AND APARATUS

FOR DETERMINING NON-OBVIOUS

SAVINGS IN THE PURCHASE OF GOODS AND SERVICES

Confirmation No.: 1353

Group Art Unit: 3626

Examiner: Robert W. Morgan

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

GROUP 3600

Sir:

Attached is a list of documents on form PTO-1449 together with copies of each identified document. Also enclosed is a translation or a concise explanation of each non-English language document.

It is requested that the Examiner consider these documents and officially make them of record in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and Section 609 of the MPEP. By submitting the listed documents, Applicant in no way makes any admission as to the prior art status of the listed documents, but is instead submitting the listed documents for the sake of full disclosure.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), before final Office Action or Allowance, whichever is earlier.

In accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), the following statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is made:

No item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person

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signing this document after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 4, 2004



Sarah B. Simmons

CLT01/4630695v1



(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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Complete if Known

09/275,887

March 25, 1999

Joseph Robert Offutt, Jr. et al.

3626

Robert W. Morgan

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[illegible][illegible]

	Not Considered	Considered
1. The number of people who are affected by the problem.		
2. The severity of the problem.		
3. The likelihood of the problem occurring.		
4. The cost of the problem.		
5. The time required to solve the problem.		
6. The complexity of the problem.		
7. The availability of resources to solve the problem.		
8. The potential for future problems.		
9. The impact of the problem on other areas.		
10. The overall importance of the problem.		

CLT01/4630703v1